

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 /017 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: COMM/NOAA/NMFS:RARNAUDO

APPROVED BY: OES/OFA/FA:LMNAKATSU

COMM/NOAA/NMFS:MKRAVANJA:HBEASLEY

STATE:EUR/WE:MDURKEE OES/OFA

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R 030629Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

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FOR REG FISHATT

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USEC TOKYO COPENHAGEN

DTD 091448Z NOV 76

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 8498

TOKYO FOR AMBASSADOR RIDGEWAY, US FISHERIES TEAM

EC BRUSSELS FOR L. SNEAD, US FISHERIES TEAM

COPENHAGEN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, SP, US

SUBJECT: SPANISH PRESS REPORTS US/GOS GIFA "PRACTICALLY FINISHED"

REF: MADRID 8437

1. SPANISH PRESS NOVEMBER 9 CITES "WELL-INFORMED SOURCES"
TO EFFECT US-SPANISH GIFA "PRACTICALLY FINISHED," WITH ONLY
"ONE FINAL CONSIDERATION" REMAINING. SOURCES REPORTEDLY
SAID GIFA COULD HAVE BEEN SIGNED DURING LAST WEEK'S
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MADRID MEETINGS EXCEPT FOR SPANISH INSISTENCE ON "THE

NECESSITY THAT GUARANTEES BE GRANTED TO OUR COUNTRY THAT THE QUOTA IN U.S. WATERS WHICH BELONGS TO US (NOS CORRESPONDE) CAN BE RECOVERED PERFECTLY, WITHOUT SPANISH INTERESTS BEING SUBJECTED TO THE ACTIONS OF ANOTHER TYPE OF REGIONAL OR STATE ORGANIZATION OTH THAT NATION." THIS "FINAL POINT" WILL BE CONSIDERED AGAIN AT THE ICNAF MEETING IN TENERIFE, ACCORDING TO REPORT.

2. ARTICLE STATES THAT ABOUT SIXTY REFRIGERATOR VESSELS OF MEDIUM TONNAGE AND "SOME COD BOATS" FROM ATLANTIC PORTS OF ANDALUCIA, GALICIA AND CANTABRIA OPERATE IN ZONE AFFECTED BY U.S. LAW. RELATED ARTICLE ON EEC ACTION CLAIMS THAT FISHERMAN IN GALICIA, WHICH PRODUCE 35 PERCENT OF TOTAL SPANISH CATCH, HAVE STARTED SELLING BOATS OR MOVING TO OTHER REGIONS. LATTER INCLUDES 30 TO 40 BOATS WITH CONTRACTS TO FISH FROM CANARY ISLAND PORTS. ECONOMY OF LA CORUNA, WITH ANNUAL INCOME 3,600 MILLION PESETAS (ABOUT \$53 MILLION) FROM FISHING IN EEC AREA, SEVERLY AFFECTED BY RESTRICTIONS. OVERALL SOME 70,000 FISHING INDUSTRY WORKERS IN GALICIA AND NORTHERN SPAIN PRODUCE A REPORTED 10,000 MILLION PESETAS (ABOUT \$147 MILLION) ANNUALLY. ACCORDING SOURCE IN NATIONAL SYNDICATE OF FISHING SPAIN WILL BE FORCED SPEND 30-35,000 MILLION PESETAS (ABOUT \$515 MILLION) PER YEAR FOR FISH IMPORTS TO REPLACE TRADITIONAL CATCH, RAISING DEPENDENCE ON EEC FOR RAW MATERIALS BY ABOUT TEN PERCENT. SPOKESMAN EMPHASIZED THAT "FISH IS PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF PROTEIN SUPPLY FOR SPANISH, ESPECIALLY FOR MORE MODEST CLASSES THAT CANNOT OBTAIN PROTEIN DERIVED FROM MEAT."

3. FISHING AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO REPORTED AS "JUST AROUND CORNER" SINCE LAST DIFFERENCES HAVE DISAPPEARED. HOWEVER, HUELVA FISHING FLEET OF SIXTY-TWO VESSELS TEMPORARILY AT ANCHOR IN PUNTA NEGRA (POPULAR REPUBLIC OF CONGO) AFTER ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES PROHIBITED FURTHER FISHING IN THAT COUNTRY'S WATERS. AT SAME TIME DIRECTOR GENERAL AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN DENIED ENTRY TO ANGOLA TO ATTEMPT RESOLVE MATTER.
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4. COMMENT: JUDGING BY PRESS ACCOUNT SPANISH OFFICIALS STILL INSISTENT ON "GUARANTEES" PROVISION OF GIFA AND UNCONVINCED THAT PUBLIC STATEMENT OF ANTIREGIONAL COUNCIL POSITION WILL HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECTS. OPTIMISTIC TONE OF ARTICLE HINTS THAT THIS MINOR MATTER WILL BE RESOLVED AND AGREEMENT SIGNED AFTER TENERIFE MEETING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FISHING AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE294972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: COMM/NOAA/NMFS:RARNAUDO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760447-1182
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761274/aaaacivo.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 8437
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 APR 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH PRESS REPORTS US/GOS GIFA "PRACTICALLY FINISHED"
TAGS: EFIS, SP, US, ICNAF
To: CASABLANCA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006